



# LARC



Volume 54, Number 12

DECEMBER 2014

## December President's Message - Larry Leblanc KE5KJD

Our next meeting is on December 4<sup>th</sup> and will be held at Golden Corral on Ambassador Caffery in Lafayette starting at 6 PM. All club members and former club members and their guests can attend. It should be a fun time of fellowship and good eating. You can build your own perfect dish as it will be "Dutch Treat". No VE Testing at this meeting, as we are giving our excellent team time off to join the rest of us for the fun and eats.

We had some fun activity in November, with an antenna party at Danny Daigle's QTH and the Cajun Cup 10K Run in Lafayette. Thanks to all who participated. The Cajun Cup 10K Run was fun to watch with some ladies and men running the race pushing strollers and keeping up with the middle of the pack. The top winner in the men's race was Jarrett LeBlanc with a total time of 29 minutes and 58 seconds. The top winner in the women's category was Megan Saloom with a total time of 36 minutes and 7 seconds. I do not have a total count, but the highest number tag I saw was over 1500. We also had a good time at the auction of radio parts at our meeting and I hope that all parts are in good use.

When I looked at the calendar, I noticed that the January club meeting would fall on January 1<sup>st</sup>, New Year's Day.

Since many of you will be involved in family activities, we are moving our meeting date to the **SECOND THURSDAY** of the month, January 8<sup>th</sup>. I checked with Greg Dolan K5LFT and we will have VEC testing starting at 6:00 PM. Pass the word around to all you know. We don't want anyone to miss out on all the fun in 2015. If you have not submitted your dues, this will be a good time to do so.

On behalf of the club members, I would like to thank Fred Marshall W5MLE for the donation of a "state of the art" repeater for use by our club. Also to thank Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP and Charlie Morrison N5WE in identifying and pushing for a second repeater. With these two repeaters, Lafayette and the Acadiana area will be up to date with the current technology, which includes digital modes.

I did complete my first 6 position remote antenna switch with parts ordered from the Internet. The design is solid and seems to be operating as described. I did find out that the supplier the unit would handle 1500 watts and up to 3KW PEP. My calculation from the relay spec says about 1250 watts AC, so it looks like it will serve me well. I ordered parts for two units, the first is set up and working with a cable to control the relays.

The second unit will have additional control circuitry to operate without a control cable, using signals sent over the center coax conductor. That will require some additional design because traditional published circuitry only allows for switching 4 antennas. I did have to do some "Southern Engineering" to get the board into a plastic Carlon box, and I did incur some unexpected costs to buy tools to drill the holes and a Dremel Tool to cut the box to fit the board. Right now, I think the boxes will cost approximately \$130 each including gas spent to round up the parts and purchase the tools. No costs were included for the time spent and band aids for minor injuries to my hand. There may be some added costs for the added circuit and the remote switching control box.

Archie Hill, W5AG and I will be going to the Boy Scout camp this Saturday to help with their Radio Merit Badge. We had a good time last year and hope for a repeat this year, minus all the rain we had last year. Not only rain, but was it cold! You know the cold that makes you think twice about standing in line for the bath house. Fortunately for me, Archie had brought a spare set of rubber boots...

Hope I will see y'all for the Christmas supper!!!

## AARA DECEMBER 2014 CHRISTMAS BANQUET MEETING

Our December general meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>** at the Golden Corral, 3110 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy, Lafayette, LA 70506 at **6:00 PM** in the private dining area. All members, family and guest are invited. This is a "Dutch Treat" affair, each person paying his own meal. This will be a very short business meeting so we can spend time together in eating and fellowship. Wishing all a *Merry Christmas A& Happy New Year!*

**No VE Testing at this meeting!**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### GENERAL MEETING

December 4, 2014 @ 6:00 PM  
Golden Corral - Christmas Banquet  
Ambassador Caffery  
No VE Testing Tonight

### AREA HAMFESTS

See page 4

### Local 2-Meter Nets

#### Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM  
147.150 PL 103.5 Carencro, LA

#### Monday

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

#### Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

#### Wednesday

Bodie's Memorial DX Net  
145.410 New Iberia, LA

#### Thursday

Youth Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

### AARA OFFICERS 2014 - 2015

**President** - Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD  
LarryJamesLeBlanc@centurylink.net  
**Vice Pres.** - Jess Gillion - KF5LUL  
**Secretary** - Sandy Leblanc - KE5KJF  
**Treasurer** - Archie Hill—W5AG

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Paula Romero - KF5CNS  
Glen Thibodeaux - KF5FNP  
James Williams - KF5RBW  
Kendra Wilson - KF5FYS

#### QSL MANAGER

Roland Guidry - NA5Q

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR &  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**  
Herman Campbell - KN5GRK  
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The **LARC** is published monthly by the:

### Acadiana Amateur Radio Association

P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the American Red Cross Building, 101 North Pat Street, Scott, LA

## NOVEMBER AARA CLUB MEETING MINUTES

November 4, 2014

### CLUB MEETING:

- The AARA meeting was called to order by President Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD.
- Herman Campbell led the prayer and we all prayed for members who are healing, and for the safety of all involved with the Cajun Cup 10K Run.
- All said the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Members talked about interesting contacts during the month.
- 14 members and 2 visitors attended the meeting.

**Minutes:** The October minutes were submitted by Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF, secretary, and they were posted in the November LARC. On motion by Galen Wilson KF5BET, seconded by Tom Dischler W5OHJ, the minutes were accepted as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** Archie Hill W5AG was unable to attend the meeting, so there was no Treasurer's report for October 2014. The Financial Report is not published in the LARC; any member wanting a copy can contact Archie Hill W5AG.

**Christmas Party:** Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD announced that the Christmas Party would be on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at the Golden Corral on Ambassador Caffery. It will be "Dutch Treat" – everyone paying for their own meal.

**Cajun Cup 10K Run:** The following members participated with the communications at the check points during the Cajun Cup 10K Run: Phoebe Gaudet KC5VRN, Ralph Gaudet WB5GAF, Galen Wilson KF5BET, Kendra Wilson KF5FYS, Tom Dischler W5OHJ, Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD and Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF. We met before the race for coffee, hot chocolate and donuts. Each participating member received a T-shirt and free drinks, bread and jambalaya. (Yum)

**Nominating Committee:** Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD asked for volunteers for the Nominating Committee for officers for next year. The following members volunteered: Galen Wilson KF5BET, Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, Tom Dischler W5OHJ, and Nick Romero KE5MWX. Galen Wilson KF5BET was appointed Chairman by Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD, President. The committee will present a slate of Officers at the December meeting. Voting will be in January and installation in March after the Hamfest.

**Yaesu DR-1X Repeater:** Fred Marshall donated a Yaesu DR-1X repeater to the AARA. On motion by Fred Marshall W5MLE, seconded by Dave Redfearn N4ELM, the membership voted to accept the donated repeater.

There was some discussion about purchasing another Yaesu DR-1X repeater. We had to adjourn the meeting for a Board meeting. Members of the Board present were: Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD, Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF, Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, and Kendra Wilson KF5FYS. After the approval of the Board, the membership voted to purchase another Yaesu DR-1X repeater while they were on sale.

**Hamfest 2015:** Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP reported that the Hamfest will be on the **third weekend in March** at the Rayne Convention Center. Some of vendors coming are: MFJ, Main Trading, Kenwood, and others.

Door prizes were awarded.

On motion by Tom Dischler W5OHJ, seconded by Herman Campbell KN5GRK, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,  
Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF  
AARA Secretary 2014-2015





## Minden Amateur Radio Association (MARA) Annual Christmas Hamfest

**Saturday, December 20, 2014**

**Time:** 8:30 AM- 2:00 PM

**Location:** City Hall located on 520 Broadway St, Minden, LA.

**Talk-In:** 147.300 PL186.2 (NLA Link System)

**Admission:** \$5.00 each which includes 1 prize ticket.

**Tickets:** \$1 each, 6-\$5, 15-\$10, 35-\$20, 50-\$25, 100-\$50.

**Swap Tables:** \$5.00 per table.

**VE Testing:** All levels, 9 AM to 11:30 PM.

**ARRL Forum:** 12:30-1:30 PM

**DXCC Card Checker:**

Bobby Baker, WM5H

### Main Prizes

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Kenwood TS-480SAT HF

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Kenwood TM-V71A VHF/UHF Mobile

**3<sup>rd</sup>:** MFJ-259C Antenna Analyzer

**4<sup>th</sup>:** Icom IC-T70A HD 2m/70cm Dual Band HT

### Vendors

Main Trading Company  
(Furnishing our prize radios)  
Palmetto Antennas, LLC  
The SignMan of Baton Rouge

### Website for more info:

<http://www.n5rd.org/activity.htm>



## 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Hammond Hamfest

**Saturday, January 17, 2015**

**Time:** 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Location:** Magnuson Hotel & Conference Center 2000 South Morrison Blvd.

**Talk-In:** 147.000 (-600) PL 107.2

**Admission & Parking:** Free

### Dealers & Vendors

Palmetto Antennas

Hub City Amateur Radio Sales

Tiny's Monograms

### VE Test Session

(La Veranda Room)

Registration Begins 8:30 am- Test Fee \$15 cash, photo ID, copy of license or CSCE. Testing begins following Registration.

### Forum Schedule (Pontchartrain Room)

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM TBA

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM TBA

11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon TBA

### Grand Prizes:

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Icom IC-718 HF Transceiver 100W, 160-10 meters CW Keyer built-in, 101 memories, 12V Operation

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** MFJ-949E Deluxe Versa Tuner II Manual Antenna Tuner, 300 Watts 160-10 meters

**3<sup>rd</sup>:** VISA Gift Card - \$150 Value

**4<sup>th</sup>:** Baofeng UV-5R Dual Band Handheld

### More info on website at:

<http://www.selarc.org/selarchamfest.htm>

CAJUN CUP 10 K



RUN REPORT



On Saturday, November 8, 2014 the Cajun Cup 10K Run took place in downtown Lafayette.

Larry KE5KJD and Sandy KE5KJF showed up with coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts for the crew just before 7 AM. The race started at 8:05 AM.

Cub members participated with the communications at the check points during the Cajun Cup 10K Run were: Phoebe Gaudet KC5VRN, Ralph Gaudet WB5GAF, Galen Wilson KF5BET, Kendra Wilson KF5FYS, Tom Dischler W5OHJ, Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD and Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF. Each participating member received a T-shirt and free drinks, bread and jambalaya at the Parc San Souci area on E. Congress & Polk St.



## Winter Camp “Lost Bayou” Radio Merit Badge

By Larry Leblanc - KE5KJD



Archie Hill, W5AG and Larry LeBlanc, KE5KJD, provided support for the Radio Merit Badge at the “Lost Bayou” Boy Scout camp north of Ville Platte, Louisiana on Saturday November 22 through Tuesday November 25.

Archie did the presentations and radio demonstrations and Larry put up antennas and radios for the scouts to make their required contacts. We ran a trap vertical over a chicken wire ground plane, a ZS6BKW dipole at about 20 feet, and a refurbished CushCraft 10 meter 3 element beam at about 22 feet. We also had a ladder line J-Pole at about 20 feet for VHF but were unable to contact any of the VHF repeaters in the area. We had a laptop outfitted with FLDIGI to demonstrate the PSK and CW modes with a spectrum display using a RTL “dongle” running on the first IF of a FT990 using the free program HSDR. We also used an audio cable to interface to the ICOM 735.

The second day of activity was a little upset by an area-wide power outage. However, we were able to shift emphasis and Archie had lecture time outside and we operated the radios with a fully solar charged emergency battery, showing the scouts that emergency communications was real and possible with amateur radio. The battery had plenty power for the radios and we also had a solar panel to recharge the battery if we ever got sunlight.



The Scout Camp has had a name change since last year and is now called “Lost Bayou Scout Camp” instead of the former “Mountain Bayou Lake Scout Camp”. The camp also sports new signs for the camp locations and street directions. These are very nicely done and will most likely last a number of years.

The bands were open most of the time with a wide open 10 meter band on most days. Archie was able to contact Guatemala and Germany as well as other hams. Larry contacted Kodiak Island off Alaska and a French speaking ham in Ontario Canada as well as other US hams. The opportunity was there to make many contacts with our formidable antenna farm. However, we concentrated on the job at hand in supporting the Scouts in their work toward



the Radio Merit Badge.

The Scouts were able to talk to a couple of very helpful hams, KB1QJX in Tariffville, Connecticut and N7CMJ in Kalispell, Montana. Both hams were very good at relating to the Scouts and we found out a lot about them and their equipment and their locale. Many thanks go to the hams willing to help young people appreciate the hobby. A total of about 16 scouts got their badge.

The story here would not be complete if we did not mention that the food was great and the kitchen support at the camp was awesome with both adults and scouts serving meals. I was impressed with the wide range of activities for the scouts and the participation of volunteers to teach the scouts. Where else can you get trained on shotguns and rifles by an expert marksman, first aid by a qualified doctor, photography by a professional photographer, and robotics by an engineer well versed in the industry.

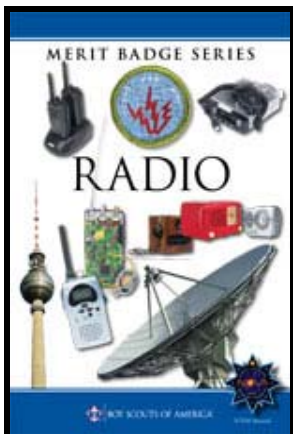


The scouts in general exemplified what is good and possible when leaders are there to guide them in their search for excellence. If only all our elected leaders and representatives showed equal resolve. Here is the Scout Oath....

“On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.”

## JANUARY 2015 AARA GENERAL MEETING

Being a first Thursday in January 2015 falls on New Year's Day, the January General Meeting will be held on the second Thursday of January which will be January 8, 2015 at 7:00 PM. We plan to have a VE Test Session at 6:00 PM.



## OCTOBER 2014 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
<b>OAARC Net</b> - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club 147.015 @ 7:00 PM Sunday	5	34	1	95	N5LRZ Ray
<b>AARA Monday Night Net</b> 146.820 @ 7:00 PM (Rotates each week)	4	53	Ø	92	W5GTI Mark
<b>Acadiana ARES Net</b> 145.370 @ 7:00 PM Tuesday	4	22	Ø	76	N5LRZ Ray
<b>Bodie's Memorial DX Net</b> 145.410 @ 7:00 PM Wednesday	3	17	Ø	100	N5LRZ Ray
<b>Youth Thursday Night Net</b> 146.820 @ 7:00 PM Thursday	3	48	Ø	102	KF5BEW Abbi KF5FYS Kendra

The nicest place to be is in someone's thoughts, the safest place to be is in someone's prayers, and the very best place to be is.....in the hands of God...  
— Unknown

### AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net Rotation

Mark W5GTI, the net control station, for the AARA Monday Night Net had suggested that the net be rotated between three different area repeaters. Here is the December 2014 schedule:

DATE:	TIME:	REPEATER:	PL TONE:
December 1	7:00 PM	145.370	103.5
December 8	7:00 PM	147.040	103.5
December 15	7:00 PM	146.820	103.5
December 22	7:00 PM	145.370	103.5
December 29	7:00 PM	147.040	103.5

When using the SkyWarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL Tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8.

The December 2014 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website at:

[http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/files/monday\\_net.pdf](http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/files/monday_net.pdf)

**Notice:** On the January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Monday Night Net, Mark made a offer that goes like this:

The top 10 check-ins on the Monday Night AAARA Net during 2014 will get their call/name entered into a drawing and winner will receive a Chinese import dual band handi-talkie paid for by Mark W5GTI. **HOW ABOUT THAT?** So be sure to check into the net and thanks to Mark in keeping the net active.

### AARA



### UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

12/3	BENJAMIN	KF5ZSR
12/7	ROLAND	NA5Q
12/8	FRED	KE5LP
12/11	PAT	WD5C
12/15	NICK	KE5MWX
12/21	JIMMIE	N8OVD
12/22	BUTCH	K5GLD
12/22	GERARD	KD5VPC
12/29	RANDY	N5MLJ
12/29	DAVID	KC5DPL
1/1	NICK	K5QXJ
1/3	BARBARA	N5AUO
1/5	ARCHIE	W5AG

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.

### Some of the runners in the Cajun Cup 10 Run in downtown Lafayette.



### DUES TIME

Remember, it is time again to renew your membership or join the AARA for year 2015-2016.

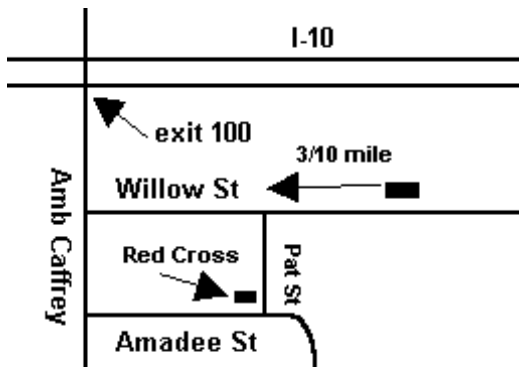


Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.  
P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



**LIFE IS SIMPLE**



Share the Fun - Bring a  
Friend to be a HAM !

## AARA GENERAL MEETING

**Christmas Banquet - December 4, 2014 - 6:00 PM**

**No VE Testing Tonight**

**Golden Corral - Ambassador Caffery**

**Lunch Bunch - Each Wednesday 10:45 AM - 2:00 PM**

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

Check 146.820 PL 103.5 - repeater for info.

COMPLIMENTARY  
ISSUE



## Tangy Honey Glazed Ham

<http://allrecipes.com>

- |                                       |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 (10 pound fully-cooked, bone-in ham | 1/3 large orange, juiced and zested |
| 1 1/4 cups packed dark brown sugar    | 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard         |
| 1/3 cup honey                         | 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves          |

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Place ham in a roasting pan.

In a small saucepan, combine brown sugar, pineapple juice, honey, orange juice, orange zest, Dijon mustard, and ground cloves. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer for 5 to 10 minutes. Set aside.

Bake ham in preheated oven uncovered for 2 hours. Remove ham from oven, and brush with glaze. Bake for an additional 30 to 45 minutes, brushing ham with glaze every 10 minutes.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
&  
HAPPY 2015 NEW YEAR!  
from AARA**



## FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

**[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov)**

FCC Website:

**<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>**

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

**<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>**

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission,  
1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245